MEMORANDUM

DATE: December 18, 2006

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Lew C. Bauman
       County Administrative Officer

SUBJECT: County Administrative Officer’s Weekly Report for December 18, 2006

This is the weekly report by the County Administrative Officer to the Board of Supervisors. This report provides information on issues affecting the County and the progress of County activities.

RMA - General Plan

The Board is currently scheduled to complete its review of the General Plan on Tuesday, December 19th. Based upon the current schedule, the Final EIR will be released on either December 21st or 22nd. Staff will then complete all of the edits to the General Plan based upon Board direction and consistent with the errata in the FEIR in order to have a final version prepared for Board consideration on January 3, 2007.

Following approval, the document will be posted on the County web-site and will be available for public review at 10 libraries and the RMA offices in Salinas. Printed copies and CD’s will also be available for purchase.

Cooperative Extension

UC Cooperative Extension's Youth Food Stamp Nutrition Education Program provided Soledad Unified School District with curriculum materials for implementation of the newly mandated Student Wellness Policy. All Soledad teachers responsible for health and fitness education, from preschool to high school, are delivering nutrition education in the classroom this fall - a first in Monterey County. Chief Business Officer Vira Uldall chaired the Wellness Policy Committee and supported the policy through Board approval. District administrators organized pilot testing...
of UCCE’s age appropriate curriculum offerings throughout the grade levels during the 2006 spring semester. Curriculum Director Deneen Newman facilitated the official roll-out. UCCE’s Nutrition Education Manager Kathleen Nolan demonstrated how to integrate the program into the instructional day. In October, all teachers received curriculum binders, complete book sets went to each school library and Kids’ MyPyramid posters went to each cafeteria. Upper grade elementary teachers using garden-based curriculum also received vegetable seeds donated by UCCE Vegetable Crops advisor, Richard Smith. Soledad students are now learning a valuable life skill: how to make wise nutrition choices for themselves.

Monterey County Farm Advisors were recognized for their outstanding efforts to improve water quality for Monterey County and the Central Coast watershed. The “Farm Water Quality Team”, composed of 29 UC researchers, received the University of California Cooperative Extension 2006 Outstanding Teamwork Distinguished Service Award. Four local farm advisors, Larry Bettiga, Michael Cahn, William Chaney, and Richard Smith, were members of the “Farm Water Quality Team”. The team received this statewide recognition for their efforts to educate farmers in best management practices for protecting groundwater, waterways, and the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. As members of the team, local advisors were able to compound the benefits to Monterey County through the expertise of the other farm water quality team members.

This concludes the CAO report.